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STPDTS

DEPT FOR NEA-IRAN-DL, NEA-ARP STEVE WALKER, AF/C ROSALIND-MONTANEZ-MUHINDA

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PREL PGOV BY IR</u>

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI REGARDING

THE IRANIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

REF: REF: A)BUJUMBURA 421 B)STATE 87682

11. A copy of the original French version of the following Declaration was received by Embassy Bujumbura on June 5, and faxed immediately to Burundi desk officer Rosalind Montanez-Muhinda.

12. Begin Text:

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI June 2, 2006 Bujumbura, Burundi

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

DECLARATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI REGARDING THE IRANIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

Following the recent declarations, and particularly the one made on Wednesday, May 31 2006 by Madam Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, the Government of Burundi is pleased to

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salute and support the positive evolution towards an approach that allows to calmly tackle the issue raised by the Iranian nuclear program.

The Government of Burundi favorably welcomes the recent offers to start direct and constructive dialogue to reconcile with all the interests involved and to settle the issue by way of negotiation as an agreement needs to be honestly negotiated before it is concluded.

As far as Burundi is concerned, needless to stress the interest that the Government of a country gradually emerging from a more than 10 years' ravaging armed conflict, attaches to the pacific resolution of controversies.

The Government of Burundi hopes that those offers will be the subject of profound discussions, unite all the points of view and will allow progress towards the resolution of the delicate issue in lawsuit by way of negotiation. It encourages both parties to make good use of the opportunity and work in a resolute manner to avoid any attitude able of causing prejudice to the peace cause. END TEXT

Moller